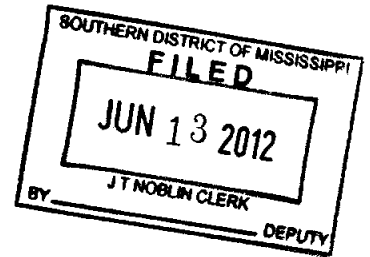


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
SOUTHERN DIVISION



DARLENE BLAKER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SAM'S EAST, INC.

Defendant.

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CASE NO.

1:12cv190 LG-JMR

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO: THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
SOUTHERN DIVISION

Defendant, SAM'S EAST, INC. ("Sam's"), gives notice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441 and § 1446 that this cause is hereby removed from the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Southern Division. As grounds for this removal, Defendant shows as follows:

1. An action was commenced against the Defendant Sam's in the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, entitled *Darlene Blaker vs. Sam's East, Inc.*, Civil Action No. A2401-12-74. The documents attached hereto as (Exhibit "A") constitute all of the process, pleadings and orders served upon Defendant in this action.

2. According to the Circuit Clerk's office for the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, service of the initial pleading setting forth the Plaintiff's claims for relief was affected upon Sam's April 11, 2012. For Defendant, service was the first actual notice of this action.

3. This notice of removal is filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Southern Division, within thirty days after the receipt of other paper from which it was first ascertained that the case was one which was or had become removable by Defendant, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(3). The Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, is within this Court's district and division; therefore, this action is properly removable to this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) & (b).

4. This Court has diversity jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1332 since the parties are diverse and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs.

5. Plaintiff Darlene Blaker is now, and was at all times material hereto, including at the time of the commencement of this action and this Notice of Removal, an individual with her principal address in Mississippi. (Complaint, ¶ 1.) Defendant, Sam's East, Inc., is now, and was at the commencement of this action, a foreign corporation organized under the laws of the state of Arkansas with its principal place of business in the state of Arkansas.

6. The Plaintiff's Complaint seeks unspecified compensatory damages for Sam's alleged negligence. (Complaint, ¶ 8) The Plaintiff avers that as a proximate result of the alleged conduct, Darlene Blaker was caused to sustain "personal injuries and damages, including past and future physical and mental pain and suffering and loss of enjoyment of life, disfigurement, disabilities, and past and future medical expenses". (Complaint, ¶ 8).

7. In her Complaint, Plaintiff did not request a specific amount of damages. Therefore, on May 7, 2012, Sam's propounded requests for admissions to Plaintiff as to the amount in controversy. On June 6, 2012, the Plaintiff filed her answer denying that the damages did not exceed \$75,000.00, denying that the amount in controversy did not exceed \$75,000.00,

exclusive of interest and costs, and otherwise answering in a manner establishing that the jurisdictional amount in controversy had been met (Exhibit "B").

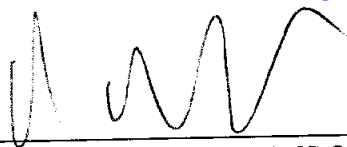
8. This action may be removed to this Court by Defendant pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, as amended, because this action is a civil action of which United States District Courts have original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), a true and correct copy of this Notice of Removal is filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, and written notice of this removal has been served on all adverse parties as required by law.

10. If any questions arise as to the propriety of the removal of this action, the removing Defendant requests the opportunity to present a brief and oral argument in support of its position that this cause is removable.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Sam's East, Inc., desiring to remove this cause to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Southern Division, being the district and division of said Court for the County in which said action is pending, prays that this Court will make any and all orders necessary to effect the removal of this cause from the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, and to effect and prepare in this Court the true record of all proceedings that may have been had in the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi.

DATED this 12th day of June.



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OF COUNSEL:

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Facsimile: (251) 433-1578

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

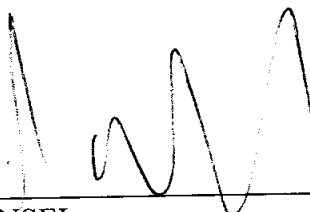
I hereby certify that I have on this day June 12, 2012, served a copy of the foregoing pleading upon counsel as listed below by depositing the same in the U. S. Mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed.

Albert L. Necaise

Attorney at Law

P. O. Box 717

Gulfport, MS 39502-0717



OF COUNSEL